

Vacancy Announcement



U. S. Consulate Basrah

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates

FROM: Human Resources Office

POSITION: Information Assistant, FSN-8; FP-6*

ANNOUNCEMENT NO: 16-B-49

OPENING DATE: December 8, 2016

CLOSING DATE: December 15, 2016

WORK HOURS: Full time: 40 hours/week

SALARY: *Ordinarily Resident (OR): 43,110 USD p.a.
Starting Gross Salary Including Allowances (Position Grade: FSN-8)

Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): FP-6*

*Final grade/step for NORs will be determined by Washington

ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT (OR) APPLICANTS (See Appendix A) MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The U.S. Consulate General in Basrah is seeking eligible and qualified individual to fill the position of **Information Assistant** in the **Public Affairs Section**.

BASIC FUNCTION OF THE POSITION:

The incumbent advises, creates, and executes media outreach in Basrah, Maysan, Dhi Qar, and Muthanna. The Information Assistant participates in evaluating target audiences and selects, adapts, and distributes the full range of Public Affairs print, electronic, and audio-visual material to expressed audiences. He/she establishes and maintains professional contacts with the highest-level media contacts and other target institutions to actively promote and market U.S. Mission objectives and facilitate the placement and dissemination of public affairs materials in social and traditional media to support Mission Iraq goals.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

Applicants must address each required qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified.

1. **EDUCATION:** University degree in journalism/communication, education, international studies, public relations, social or political sciences, arts, humanities, law, business administration, advertising, marketing is required.
2. **EXPERIENCE:** Two (2) years of experience in journalism, communication, education, project management, interpretation/translation services, public relations, advertising, marketing is required.
3. **LANGUAGE:**
English level III (Good Working Knowledge) Reading/Writing/Speaking is required.
Arabic level IV (Fluent) Reading/Writing/Speaking is required.
(Language proficiency will be tested)
4. **KNOWLEDGE:** Must have good knowledge of Basrah and southern Iraq's media, political, economic, social, and educational structure and institutions, as well as the key figures in the mass media, government, cultural, educational, labor, professional, security, and business circles. Must have excellent understanding of current and emerging social media tools used in the local environment.
5. **ABILITIES & SKILLS:** Must be able to establish and maintain high-level relationships with media leaders and journalists. Excellent oral presentation and public speaking skills are required. Must have the ability to analyze, adapt, translate, write, edit, produce, and place informational materials including in English and Arabic. Aptitude for office software applications (including MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) is required.

SELECTION PROCESS:

When qualified, applicants in the following hiring preference categories are extended a hiring preference in the order listed below. Therefore, it is essential that these applicants accurately describe their status on the application. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not eligible for a hiring preference.

HIRING PREFERENCE ORDER:

- (1) AEFM / USEFM who is a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran*
- (2) AEFM / USEFM
- (3) FS on LWOP**

*** IMPORTANT:** Applicants who claim status as a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran must submit a copy of the most recent Member Copy Four (4) of the DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, and, if applicable, a letter from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. If claiming conditional eligibility for U.S. Veterans' preference, applicants must submit proof of conditional eligibility. If the written documentation confirming eligibility is not received in the HR office by the closing date of the vacancy announcement, the U.S. Veterans'

preference will not be considered in the application process. Mission HR's decision on eligibility for U.S. Veterans' preference after reviewing all required documentation is final.

**** This level of preference applies to all Foreign Service employees on LWOP.**

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Management may consider the following when determining successful candidacy: nepotism, conflicts of interest, budget, and residency status.
2. Current OR employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply. Current OR employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report (EPR) are not eligible to apply.
3. Current NOR employees hired on a Family Member Appointment (FMA) or a Personal Service Agreement (PSA) are not eligible to apply within the first 90 calendar days of their employment, unless they have a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.
4. Current Locally Employed Staff (LES) are not eligible to apply for advertised positions within the first year of their employment.
5. Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) and Refugee Visa recipients are ineligible for employment with the U.S. Mission in Iraq because it is incompatible with immigration guidelines as stated in U.S. Mission Policy Number 011-038 dated November 16, 2011.

TO APPLY:

Applicants must submit the following documents to be considered:

1. Universal Application for Employment (UAE) (Form DS-174), which is available on our website or by contacting Human Resources. (See "For Further Information" above); and
2. Any additional documentation that supports or addresses the requirements listed above (e.g. transcripts, degrees, etc.)
3. Copy of your passport (if available) and Jinsiya;

IMPORTANT: Applicants claiming a U.S. Veteran's preference must submit written documentation confirming eligibility (e.g., Member Copy 4 of Form DD-214, Letter from the Veteran's Administration, or certification documenting eligibility under the VOW Act with an expected discharge no later than 120 days after the certification is submitted) by the closing date of the vacancy announcement. If the written documentation confirming eligibility is not received in the HR office by the closing date of the vacancy announcement, the U.S. Veteran's preference will not be considered in the application process. Specific criteria for receiving a U.S. Veteran's preference may be found in HR/OE's Family Member Employment Policy (FMEP).

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

Interested applicants must apply for this position by filling out the DS 174-Universal Application for Employment form and emailing it to IraqEmployment@state.gov

To view the DS 174-Universal Application for Employment form (UAE) and application instructions, please click on below:

<http://iraq.usembassy.gov/jobsvacancies.html>

E-mails received without the appropriate subject line and incomplete applications will not be considered. Your e-mail must state the vacancy title and vacancy announcement number in the subject line, example: Last Name, VA 16-B-49, Information Assistant, FSN-8, Basrah

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs. The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.

Appendix A - DEFINITIONS

Eligible Family Member (EFM): An EFM for employment purposes is defined as an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen or not a U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#)); **or**
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term “child” shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchild, adopted child, and a child under legal guardianship of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such child is expected to be under legal guardianship until 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian; **or**
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support; **or**
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority.

U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM): A USEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and resides at the sponsoring employee’s post of assignment abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and is under chief of mission authority; **or**
- resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2; **or**
- Currently receives a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM): An AEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT); **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority; **and**
- Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**

- Does NOT currently receive a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

Member of Household (MOH): A MOH is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria.

- A MOH is someone who accompanies or joins a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and
- A MOH must be officially declared to the COM by the sponsoring employee as part of his/her household; and
- A MOH is under COM authority;
- A MOH may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative, or adult child;
- A MOH may or may not be a U.S. Citizen;
- A MOH is **not** an EFM;
- A MOH is **not** listed on the travel orders or approved Form F-126 of a sponsoring employee.

Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR) – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- An EFM, USEFM or AEFM of a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
- Has diplomatic privileges and immunities; and
- Is eligible for compensation under the FS or GS salary schedule; and
- Has a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN); and
- Is not a citizen of the host country; and
- Does not ordinarily reside in the host country; and
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws.

Ordinarily Resident (OR) – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- A citizen of the host country; or
- A non-citizen of the host country (including a U.S. citizen or a third-country national) who is locally resident and has legal and/or permanent resident status within the host country and/or who is a holder of a non-diplomatic visa/work and/or residency permit; and/or is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

Approved: PAS/ KS

Approved: HRO/DE

Drafted : HRA/OK